

**When is a Team Decision  
Making meeting  
scheduled?**

A Team Decision Making Meeting can help make positive decisions when:

- ☐ A child has been removed from his or her home.
- ☐ A child is in out-of-home care and a change in placement is required or requested.
- ☐ A child may be returning home.



The commitment and creative thinking of those closest to the child are essential to making the best decisions.

**Your Team Decision  
Making Meeting**

We appreciate your willingness to participate on short notice.

**PLEASE ARRIVE 30 MINUTES EARLY**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

You are encouraged to invite anyone you feel will help you and your family.

Talk with your Social Worker if you need assistance with:

- ☐ Bus Tickets
- ☐ Child Care
- ☐ Translation

Social Worker: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

For other special needs or additional information about TDM, please contact the TDM Clerical staff at (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_.

**San Bernardino County**

**Department of Children's Services**

**Family2Family (F2F)  
TEAM  
DECISION-MAKING**



**MAKING DECISIONS FOR THE  
SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF  
CHILDREN**



## WHAT IS A TDM MEETING?

- ❑ A Team Decision Making (TDM) meeting brings together people who are interested in and care about the family.
- ❑ A TDM meeting is held to ensure that the best possible decisions are made regarding the child's safety and placement.
- ❑ The TDM meeting focus is on child safety and preserving family and community connections.



## WHO MAY ATTEND A TDM MEETING

- ❑ Parents/Family Members/Caregivers
- ❑ People who support the family
- ❑ Social Workers/Supervisors
- ❑ Community Representatives, including Family Advocates
- ❑ Service Providers
- ❑ TDM Facilitator
- ❑ Others identified by the family or Social Worker

## GUIDELINES FOR AN EFFECTIVE MEETING

- ❑ All participants contribute to the process, being direct, honest and respectful of others.
- ❑ Each participant will have the opportunity to be heard.
- ❑ Participants make commitments to support the decisions made.

## WHAT HAPPENS AT A TDM MEETING?

A child welfare services facilitator guides the meeting through the following:

- ❑ Introductions
- ❑ Meeting Guidelines
- ❑ Identification of:
  - ❑ The child's needs
  - ❑ The family's strengths and needs
  - ❑ Community resources
- ❑ Child safety plan
- ❑ Placement options

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A TDM MEETING?

Good decisions are made because:

- ❑ More information becomes available.
- ❑ Participation by parents, extended family and community members leads to creative ideas and workable solutions for the child.
- ❑ People and places important to a child are acknowledged and respected.

## TEAM DECISION MAKING PRINCIPLES

Team Decision Making is a key strategy used to implement Family-2-Family, an initiative of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Family-2-Family is dedicated to improving outcomes for children in foster care and is based on the following principles:

- ❑ Children need families.
- ❑ Families need the help of strong, nurturing communities.
- ❑ Child welfare agencies and communities are more able to help children and families when working together.